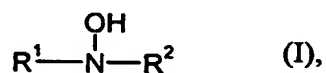


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An anti-skinning agent comprising
a) an organic compound of formula (I)

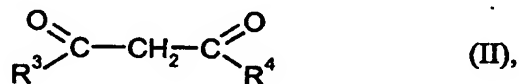


where

R¹ and R² mutually independently represent hydrogen, a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated C₁-C₂₀ aliphatic radical, which can optionally be mono- or polysubstituted, or a C₆-C₁₂ aryl radical, a C₇-C₁₄ araliphatic radical or a C₅-C₇ cycloaliphatic radical,

and either ~~or both of~~

- b) an organic compound of formula (II)



where

R³ represents hydrogen, a hydroxyl radical, a saturated or unsaturated C₁-C₁₉ aliphatic radical, a C₁-C₇ alkoxy radical, or an amine radical -NR⁷R⁸,

R⁴ represents hydrogen, hydroxyl radical, a saturated or unsaturated C₁-C₁₉ aliphatic radical, a C₁-C₇ alkoxy radical, or an amine radical -NR⁹R¹⁰,

R⁷ and R⁸ mutually independently represent hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ aliphatic radical,

R⁹ and R¹⁰ mutually independently hydrogen or a C₁-C₆ aliphatic radical,

or ~~and~~

- c) an organic compound of formula (III)



where

R^5 represents hydrogen, a hydroxyl radical or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7$ alkoxy radical and
 R^6 represents hydrogen or an amine radical $-\text{NR}^{11}\text{R}^{12}$,
 R^{11} and R^{12} mutually independently represent hydrogen, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ aliphatic radical, or
 $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_7$ cycloaliphatic radical, or amine radical $-\text{NR}^1\text{R}^2$
 with the proviso that R^5 and R^6 are not simultaneously hydrogen.

2. (Original) The anti-skinning agent of claim 1 further comprising water and/or an organic solvent.

3. (Original) The anti-skinning agent of claim 1 wherein
 R^3 represents a substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{19}$ aliphatic radical, a substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7$ alkoxy radical, or a substituted amine radical $-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^8$, and
 R^4 represents , a substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{19}$ aliphatic radical, a substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7$ alkoxy radical, or a substituted amine radical $-\text{NR}^9\text{R}^{10}$,
 R^{11} and R^{12} mutually independently represent a substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ aliphatic radical, or a substituted $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_7$ cycloaliphatic radical, or a substituted amine radical - NR^1R^2

4. (Original) The anti-skinning agent of claim 1 wherein the compounds of formula (I) to (III) are in the form of aqueous dispersions or emulsions.

5. (Original) A composition of matter comprising the anti-skinning agent of claim 1.

6. (Original) The composition of matter of claim 5 wherein the amount of anti-skinning agent is between 0.001 and 2.0 wt.% based on the composition.

7. (Original) The composition of matter of claim 5 wherein the amount of anti-skinning agent is between 0.01 to 0.5 wt.%, based on the composition.

8. (Original) The composition of matter of claim 5 further comprising a pigment.

9. (Original) The composition of matter of claim 5 wherein the composition is a colorless or pigmented paint, a coating, a printing ink based on oxidatively drying binders, an oxidatively drying paint system, or a spraying agent in a printing ink.